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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Advanced Manufacturing and Biotech Training Center Equipment Project for Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the I95/I40 Crossroads of America Economic Development Alliance located at 600 South Magnolia Avenue, Dunn, NC 28334.

The I-95/ I-40 Alliance is a collaborative effort between several small municipalities (the Town of Four Oaks, Benson, and the City of Dunn) in southern Johnston and eastern Harnett County to enhance the economic prosperity of the region through quality job creation and advanced technical training opportunities. The Alliance would use these funds to acquire equipment for an advanced manufacturing training center and a Biotech training center. This would assist countless industries and help employ thousands of people over its duration.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the project will help local industries by providing a skilled workforce and advanced technical training opportunities. Additionally, the acquisition of equipment for the training centers would create job opportunities related to its maintenance and operation. The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Wiley Nickel

Member of Congress